

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 19-21 and 25-28 are currently amended herein. Claims 6, 13-18 and 21-27 stand withdrawn, Claims 2-18 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer as to the subject matter thereof. New claim 29 is presented for entry and consideration. Support for the amended claims and new claim 29 can be found throughout the application as originally filed, *inter alia*, in the originally filed claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is introduced into the specification by way of the instant claim amendments.

Objections

- The Office Action objected to the Title of the application as too long. Applicants have amended the title herein, and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection to the specification.
- The Office Action objected to claims 8-12, 19, 20 and 28 as having improper multiple dependencies. The claims as amended herein address the multiple dependencies, and Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.
- The Office Action objected to the recitation of “the use of” in claim 20. Claim 20 is amended herein to address this objection, and Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.
- The Office Action objected to claim 1 for the simultaneous inclusion of a broad range and a narrow range. Without acquiescing in this objection, Applicants note that this objection is rendered moot by the instant amendments, and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

Rejections

35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph

Claims 1-5, 7, 9-12, 19 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse this rejection.

Applicants have amended the pending claims, and submit that the claims are fully supported by the specification as originally filed. Accordingly, in light of the instant claim amendments Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the written description rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph.

35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-3 and 9-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by La Rosa *et al* (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0123343)(hereinafter “La Rosa”).

Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse this rejection.

Applicants note that on page two of the Office Action it is stated that searches were conducted for SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO:2, and that these appear to be free of the prior art. Accordingly, in light of the instant claim amendments, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the claim rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by La Rosa.

35 U.S.C. § 102(a)

Claims 1-3 and 9-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as allegedly anticipated by La Rosa (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0123343).

Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse this rejection.

Applicants note that on page two of the Office Action it is stated that searches were conducted for SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO:2, and that these appear to be free of the prior art. Accordingly, in light of the instant claim amendments, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the claim rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by La Rosa.

CONCLUSION

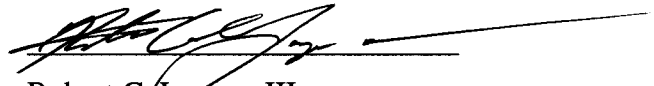
An indication of allowance of all claims is respectfully solicited. Early notification of a favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

HUNTON & WILLIAMS LLP

Date: October 23, 2007

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